

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 99

By Barnes

A RESOLUTION to commend Dr. Tim Webb for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee as Commissioner of the Department of Education.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this General Assembly should pay tribute to those distinguished public servants whose contributions to the prosperity of this state during their illustrious tenures in state government can be categorized as nothing short of outstanding; and

WHEREAS, no public servant could be more deserving of this special recognition than Dr. Tim Webb for his exemplary tenure as Commissioner of Tennessee Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, a Hohenwald native, Commissioner Webb is a graduate of Columbia State Community College, holds a bachelor's degree from Regents College, earned a Master of Arts degree in Education Leadership from Middle Tennessee State University and received his doctorate in Education Leadership from Nova Southeastern University; and

WHEREAS, active in education since 1990, Tim Webb began his career as a classroom teacher; he taught both math and social studies while inspiring his students to succeed in their every endeavor; and

WHEREAS, prior to entering state service in 2003, Dr. Webb was Superintendent of Lewis County Schools, having risen to that esteemed position in 1997 after having served tenures as a system-wide Title II Coordinator, Athletic Director, and Assistant Principal; and

WHEREAS, joining the Tennessee Department of Education during the administration of Governor Phil Bredesen, Dr. Tim Webb initially served as Assistant Commissioner for the Division of Resources and Support Services, which is responsible for public school funding and facility oversight; and

WHEREAS, rising to the post of Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Webb was named Acting Commissioner of the Department of Education on February 4, 2008, before being made permanent Commissioner of Education in July 2008; and

WHEREAS, accepting the post of Director of Schools of Cheatham County in November 2009, Dr. Webb was personally requested by Governor Bredesen to delay his departure to oversee the Race to the Top proposal process and implementation; he later assumed his duties as Director of Schools in November 2010; and

WHEREAS, under his astute leadership at the helm of the Department of Education, Tennessee developed and submitted it's successful \$500 million dollar Race to the Top proposal, "First to the Top", laying the groundwork for some of the most sweeping improvements to the state's education system in generations; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Webb's strategic plan to move Tennessee's students toward of the knowledge and skills needed by a productive, 21st century workforce included a coordinated state-wide e-Learning initiative, support for the High School Re-design program, the alignment of the Tennessee Curriculum Standards and Assessments with national standards, and creation of the Tennessee Diploma Project; and

WHEREAS, recognized for his professional expertise and insight, Dr. Webb is a member of the National Center of Education Statistics, the National Assessment Governing Board, and the TNII Steering Committee; he is also a retired Battalion Staff Officer of the Tennessee Army National Guard; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Webb 's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Tim Webb can best be described as knowledgeable, caring, and dedicated to the best for all Tennessee's children; he readily assisted the members of the General Assembly during countless meetings and hearings not only during the Extraordinary Session on Education, but also throughout his entire tenure, resolving important issues that will affect Tennesseans for years to come; and

WHEREAS, it is not often that a man of Tim Webb's dedication and commitment walks among us, and it is highly fitting that he be honored for his faithful service; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Dr. Tim Webb for his dedicated service as Commissioner of the Department of Education and his efforts on behalf of children of Tennessee, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation to Dr. Webb with this final clause omitted from such copy.